

leys. The mass of these are effervesced from the workings of European surplus and only seek a refuge in the new world where a livelihood is comparatively easy. They have nothing in the mother country and import nothing into the proposed asylum but hardy and enduring frames, energy, perseverance, enterprise, economy, and a readiness to become attached to any country that affords them a fair field for the exercise of their peculiar callings. Many of them are skillfully instructed in the mechanical arts; some are talented and scientific, and nearly all industrious and determined. In these respects if they become veritable subjects by swearing allegiance, the acquiring nation gains.—Yet there are exceptions in the form of refugees from justice that occasionally come, and in all, even the best of mankind poverty and pride may lead to pecuniary embarrassment, perhaps to fraud—burdening the state with paupers and with crimes.

To guard against these evils, England and France in common with the other powers of Europe, have their home police—parish domiciliations are enacted—quarantine laws for the preservation of health and the passport system, all embarrassing and annoying to foreigners, and particularly to travelers, who have groaned out their invectives through the press, upon the trammels incidental to European travel. Yet nations cannot interfere to prevent these annoying internal regulations.

Every country makes its own Local laws as its views and interests indicate. Some have regard to the easy importation of contagious maladies, as the Papal States; the Sicilian government, Sardinia, France, Portugal, Spain and Great Britain, because of their proximity to Egypt and the Levantine territories, where the plague exists endemically. These pass severe quarantine laws to protect their own subjects from infection.—Others are fabricating nations and impose heavy duties on foreign fabrics to protect their own artisans. Others are agricultural and in like manner impose protective duties to encourage the cultivation of their soil.—Others are liable to the incursions of Banditti, as the Eastern Arondiments of France, the mountain passes of Switzerland, and the Pyranian passes of Spain and Portugal;—these shield themselves with passports and police checks that compel foreigners to exhibit them at every point, town, village and hamlet on pain of arrest, fine and imprisonment. All such peculiarities of circumstance and position, are motives of internal policy which each nation judges of for itself and no other nation has a right, by the Law of Nations to object or interfere with these peculiar laws of local government. Even total embargos of trade and intercourse have been repeatedly declared, of which other nations feels the effects; but they cannot and never have denied the right when the nation laying such embargo has seen fit to do so.

There is however by the comity of nations a reciprocity as already shown; and the way in which one nation deals, another will deal with it in return. If one nation imposes heavy duties on the products of another, that other will impose heavy duties in return. If one nation excludes or embarrasses the subjects of another, that other will pay back in exclusions and embarrassments.

Since then nations have a sovereign right to dictate laws within their own limits and even to bury themselves like the Chinese, in seclusion, in the same manner that the master of a house can refrain from visiting and being visited, they ought to make wise laws and restrain foreigners from intercourse with them only for good reasons—preserve their dignity and national immunities as much as possible, without incurring the charge of inhospitality or want of national sociability. These promote civilization, introduce commerce, refine and meliorate manners, and bring conveniences in the way of the arts and sciences, which are always promotive of the happiness of the subject, the first duty as it is the reason of establishing all Governments.

LIGANEN.

Honolulu, 11th Aug. 1844.

THE POLYNESIAN.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT.

HONOLULU, SATURDAY, SEPT. 28, 1844.

A Private Chapter.

"I feel now as if I could leave Honolulu; I never felt so before"—was the remark of a lady to us not long since. There was much meaning in her observation and it set us to thinking. Men and women here breathe an air favored of Heaven; they subsist in a climate that knows no superior, and the bounties of Providence are abundantly diffused. Health and happiness are a common patrimony if but a claim is advanced to them. Then, whence this discontent? It is not from one alone, we of late have heard it, but from many, and they the best among us. There must be "something rotten in Denmark"—There is. Yes, there stalks among us a huge evil which casts his on-venomed shadow over all. Honolulu has become a bye-word, a thing of reproach and ridicule in the eyes of strangers. Its hospitality is as bright as ever, hearts are as warm, greetings are as sincere, but overshadowing all, and poisoning the very fountains of domestic bliss and public virtue, is this evil—the evil of slander. Its reign may be traced to two classes—thank God, the members are few, but as a fool can propound a question a wise man cannot answer, so can these individuals inflict evils which many virtuous cannot do away. Who are these that so disgrace their manhood and bring reproach upon the country. They are easily known—they are to be seen at the corners of streets—on house-tops—in places of public resort where a few can be gathered together to listen. By them characters are spoiled, stories invented, rumors circulated, the improbable made probable, the insinuation pushed home, and foibles or misfortunes turned to sport. They are the scoffers of virtue, the detractors of goodness, the enemies of government, the noisy, brawling, factious disturbers of the public peace, going about seeking what new story they may hear, and whom they may with impunity assail. Such individuals can only be compared to the bird that gloats upon garbage. Of such carrion feeders every community has its proportion, but it is not every where as here that they are enabled to do so much mischief. Here society has too long cherished within itself its own worst enemies, & it is time that as in other communities they should be expelled, the finger of scorn and reprobation pointed at them and the slanderer, like the son of Ishmael, have every man's hand against him. The disease is virulent, the remedy must be strong.

There is yet the other class to mention, the propagators of scandal, a milder term than slander, but in its real effects scarcely less injurious. We trust no female ever indulges in this practice, that no family circle in our town mildly and wittily, intending no harm, discuss their neighbors' characters, their foibles, or faults, point the shaft of ridicule, or create a joke at a slight expense of truth. It cannot be that any of that sex, Man's "ministering angels" should so far forget their high commission as to be guilty of using an uncharitable tongue or lending an uncharitable ear. O! no—they were born for better things, but if there should be any such among us, we tell them that the poison is none the slower or less dangerous because engendered by female tongues, and that if they persevere in a course so destructive of all that constitutes purity of mind and character, they must expect to reap the whirlwind.

The remedy—ay! there's the rub. He is an unprofitable physician who can only point out the complaint, but not proscribe a cure. We have heard it seriously proposed that an isolation into distinct coteries should take place, but who is there that can say,—“stand back for I am holier than thou.” No: an easier remedy exists, one available to all, and one which brings with it, its own recompense. It is not sufficient that the homely proverb, “mind one's own business” be prac-

tically attended to, but that the soul should assert its dominion over the sensual man.—Money and amusement have been the two great objects of our society of all classes—but there are duties beside, and those duties are none the less binding because a deaf ear has been turned towards them. It is a duty due society, for each individual to cultivate his mind, to assert the dignity of the intellectual man. Too long has he been the slave of the passions, and his claims been drowned amid the clamor of thoughtless pursuits, which amuse for an hour and then are forgotten. It is urged that the climate unfits one for reading or study; mental indolence is ever ingenious in excuses, but this is not a plausible one. It is from the want of will. Let families here engaged in intellectual pursuits, cultivate a taste for profitable reading, make themselves acquainted with the minds of the great and good of all countries, and their means of enjoyment will be enhanced four-fold, and we shall hear less of complaint against society in general, while the tattlers and busybodies will sink into utter insignificance, or be suffocated amid their own odors. Great public improvements are the slow result of accumulated wealth and population, but mental refinement lies within the individual grasp of all.

At this time it may perhaps be superfluous to enlarge upon the necessity of agriculture to this kingdom, and yet to a very considerable extent the public generally in their eagerness after the more immediate gains of trade, overlook its importance. It is of vital moment to its prosperity. Of mineral wealth it has next to none. Its riches lie in its soil. Without the full development of its vegetable resources, commerce will languish and maintain but a precarious existence; or at the best, the kingdom will be but a place of supplies, where whaling vessels can procure their potatoes and yams, and liable at any time to loose even this market, by the opening of some neighboring port on the coast on more favorable terms. A few traders annually would be enabled to supply the inhabitants with all the goods their limited means were capable of consuming. But this is not its destiny. The chance trade of furnishing supplies to shipping even if it should amount to several hundred thousand dollars annually is but a small affair. It answers very well to cloth a few thousand of the peasantry and to sustain a few shop-keepers.—But the men of aspiring intelligence, of means, though limited, those who feel a real interest in the prosperity of their country, must bestir themselves. Corn will not grow, wheat be turned to flour, cane to sugar, or coffee fill our cups, without active and persevering labor. In the outset losses will accrue, the necessary penalty paid by the inexperienced. But with perseverance the harvest will be a rich one. As a general thing the lands are upon a par with others in the same latitude and are not subject to many of the disadvantages incidental to them. We here have no hurricanes to destroy the crops, epidemics to cut off the cultivators, noxious vermin or wild animals to contend with, and are clear from the evils of a slave population. Our soil and climate vary with all the changes from the equatorial heat to the temperature of the cooler zone, and are equally well adapted for the productions of both. Markets are opening around us. A continent lies near us, rapidly filling with anglo-saxon sons. We have no rivals in the staples of our own soil in the immediate vicinity. The trade of the southern islands, will naturally tend southward, towards the myriads of Englishmen that inhabit the island continent. Ours will as naturally go northward to the Oregon, and if we do not hasten operations the demand will exceed our means of supplying. Nothing but lack of energy will prevent this country from becoming the West Indies of the North Pacific, and instead of seeing but a few dozen merchantmen in our harbor annually, the sails of hundreds of all nations will whiten our seas, and our wharves and ware-houses rival in the richness of their

contents, those of a Cuba or a Bourbon.—We shall at another time glance at the sources of wealth which Providence has bestowed upon the kingdom, and their relative value.

☞Masters of merchantmen, whalships and others arriving at this port, will confer a great favor upon the public through us, if they will have the goodness to send us any shipping news which they may have, such as vessels left in ports where they are last from, vessels spoken, etc., and news of a miscellaneous nature. By so doing, they will often be enabled to get news home to their owners earlier than they otherwise would, as our paper is forwarded by every opportunity to the U. S., via Mexico, and they will find it for their interest to do so in other ways. We are particularly desirous of making the paper useful to the mercantile community, and hope to be aided in our exertions by them.

The “private chapter” of this week was prepared for the last, but the publication of the novel decree of Gen. Micheltorena, and other matters, obliged us to let it lay over.

FIRE.—At 11½ o'clock Saturday night, the 21st., the Chinese Bakery, in the enclosure east of our premises, was totally destroyed by fire. 2000 lbs of bread were consumed and a considerable amount of other property. For a few minutes, the Government printing establishment was in some danger, but the wind died away, and the exertions of the people assembled confined the fire to the building in which it first broke out. The adjoining buildings were on fire, but it was promptly extinguished.

The volcano of Kilauea is reported to be in a very active state.

The captain of a French whaler was fined \$50, last week, at Lahaina, for retailing spirituous liquors contrary to law, and paid his fine without appeal.

[By Authority.]

Before His Excellency, GOVERNOR YOUNG, OF MAUI, at Lahaina, September 17th.

S. H. TYRON vs. M. CALKIN.

☞This was an action brought by the plaintiff, S. H. Tyron, against M. Calkin, U. S. Vice Commercial Agent for the port of Lahaina, for the alleged non-fulfilment of a contract between the plaintiff and defendant—damages laid at \$2,500. The witnesses were duly sworn and examined on both sides. The plaintiff attempted to prove that he had been induced to settle at Lahaina by the offers of the defendant, and that after having expended funds for a stock of medicines, and having received the situation of physician to the consulate, an office which was supposed to be worth \$3,000 per annum, he was suddenly discharged, and the situation filled by a new man. On the other hand it was testified that the plaintiff remained at Maui, on account of ill-health, and the situation of physician to the consulate was temporarily bestowed upon him. His health was inadequate to heavy practice, &c. After the examination of the witnesses, and the respective parties had been heard, His Excellency the Governor addressed the jury, charging them to be guided in their verdict by the nature of the evidence adduced, without bias or prejudice to either party. The jury retired for 20 minutes, and returned with the following verdict:—

“We the jury, are agreed that the complaint is not sustained, and the damages shall fall upon the plaintiff.”

(Signed) CALER MILLER, foreman.

Capt. COS.

RICKETSON,

FORSYTH,

LUDLOW,

CROWELL,

HAMMOND,

WEST,

AYRES,

HOWLAND,

SHOCKLEY,

WEST,

All Masters of Whale-ships then in port.

APPOINTMENTS.

By the Governor of Oahu.

ROBERT BOYD, High Sheriff;—to be Prefect of police, and Superintendent of Public Houses at Honolulu, in place of LOUIS GRAVIER, resigned.

By the Governor of Kauai.

JAMES YOUNG, to be Judge in cases in which foreigners are concerned.